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1926

# Glad Guide

*Descriptive list of the  
finest and most popular  
varieties of Gladioli of  
recent introduction  
from the world's lead-  
ing Hybridizers. ♀ ♀*



Grown By  
The Foss Heaton Glad Gardens  
Shannon City, Iowa

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MEMBER AMERICAN GLADIOLUS SOCIETY

## SOME OF THE REASONS FOR THE RAPIDLY IN- CREASING POPULARITY OF THE GLADIOLUS



1. They are easy to raise.
2. They are practically free of insect enemies and diseases.
3. The bulbs are easy to keep over the winter.
4. They multiply rapidly, and are of moderate cost.
5. They are practically certain to bloom in most any soil or climate.
6. The florets are nicely arranged on strong spikes.
7. The spikes and florets are splendidly adapted for all floral purposes.
8. They keep exceptionally fine for a long time when cut.
9. There is no odor, disagreeable or otherwise.
10. The colors are the brightest among flowers.
11. There are endless variations of colors, hues, shades and blendings.
12. There is continually something new being added—new forms, new colors, new types, to keep our interest from lagging.
13. There is not any unsightly, or superfluous, foliage, nor shedding of petals.
14. The entire plant has a clean, healthy, peppy appearance.
15. Glads have a dignity and charm which make them unsurpassingly beautiful.

## WINNINGS AT DES MOINES, SEPTEMBER. 1925

### 19 Ribbons, Mostly Firsts and Seconds

#### COLLECTION NO. 1

One bulb of each of the following 5 varieties, 35c. 5 bulbs of each, or 25 bulbs in all, \$1.50. 10 bulbs of each, or 50 bulbs, \$2.75. Purple Glory, Anna Eberius, Alice Tiplady, Crimson Glow and Jewell. Fine young bulbs, 1¼ in. and up. Postpaid.

#### COLLECTION NO. 2

10 bulbs of each of the following 5 varieties, \$1.35: Evelyn Kirtland, Herada, Le Marechal Foch, Maiden's Blush, and Mrs. Frank Pendleton.

#### FREE:

On orders of \$15.00 or over, from this catalog, I will give a good blooming size bulb of Dr. F. E. Bennett.

On orders of \$5.00 or over, from this catalog, I will give a good blooming size bulb of Twilight.

Prices in this catalog are for cash unless otherwise arranged. 25 percent of the amount of your order will hold the bulbs till March 1st. Balance C. O. D.

Every bulb is true to name and healthy. If, as a human being sometimes will do, I make a mistake, let me know about it. Then wait long enough to hear from me before you tell your neighbors, as I shall endeavor to adjust the matter to your entire satisfaction. All offers made subject to prior sale.

Iowa-grown bulbs are making a splendid reputation in the trade. There are now several hundred acres of glads in the state. My bulbs are exceptionally fine this year.

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### STANDARD SIZES FOR GRADING BULBS

No. 1—1½ in. and up; No. 2—1¼ in. to 1½ in.; No. 3—1 in. to 1¼ in.; No. 4—¾ in. to 1 in.; No. 5—½ in. to ¾ in.; No. 6—½ in. and under.

L. means large bulbs, 1¼ in. and up; M., medium, sizes No. 3 and No. 4; S., small, sizes No. 5 and No. 6.

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### BLOOMING DATES

For your benefit I have indicated by means of initials the approximate blooming season of each variety. E. means early; M. E., medium early; M., mid-season; M. L., medium late; and L., late. And where records are available, these initials are followed by exact dates in parentheses, these latter being taken from plantings that were made after the season was well advanced, and were made for the flower shows. Of course, these dates will vary a little according to the season.

## GLADIOLUS RATINGS

Mr. Chas. E. F. Gersdorff, of Washington, D. C., whose ratings are given on many of the varieties listed in this catalog, is a generally recognized authority on the Gladiolus, whose findings on hundreds of varieties, particularly the newer introductions, are unusually valuable. Mr. Gersdorff grows them under test and judges them by the following scale of points: 100 percent being the perfect Gladiolus; color 20 percent, size 15 percent, form 5 percent, substance 10 percent, length of spike 5 percent, grace 5 percent, number of blooms 5 percent, number of blooms open 5 percent, placement of blooms 5 percent, foliage 5 percent, vigor 5 percent, disease resistance 5 percent, productiveness 5 percent, any unusual quality 5 percent, or a total of 100 percent.

The members of the American Gladiolus Society, during the summer of 1924, were given a list of about 150 varieties that were most widely known and were asked to rate them, using a scale of points similar to Mr. Gersdorff's. The results of this Symposium are also given in this catalog for those varieties that were included.

Out of the 25 varieties that received the highest ratings in this Symposium, all but 3 are listed in this catalog, and all but 13 out of the 50 highest, from a preferred list of 150 varieties that are universally grown. I do not aim to grow a long list, with a little of everything. My aim is to grow only the best and I heartily welcome every effort that is being made to determine what is the best. I hope I shall always take as much pleasure as I do now in throwing into the discard all those varieties that are superseded by newer ones of the same color and type. I think I realize how confusing it is to turn to a long list of varieties and to try to pick out what one wants. The average amateur, growing for the flowers only, usually has growing space for only a few varieties, and they should be the best in the types and colors desired.

The name of the originator is given in parentheses.

PRICES POSTPAID. 6 AT DOZEN RATE, 25 AT 100 RATE.

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## WHITE

### CARMEN SYLVA

(Decorah) A. G. S. 86.2. Gersdorff 87. M. E.

A splendid cut flower pure white variety. Slender, but strong spike and many florets open. L.: 10c each.

### DR. ELKINS

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 86.8. M.

A sport of Mrs. Frank Pendleton. Has the same habits of growth and is equally as dependable. The color is pure white, with a large purple blotch. S.: 15c each. Blts. 40c per 15.

### ELF

(Diener) A. G. S. 86.6. Gersdorff 87. M. E. (6-2 to 8-30)

A pure white with a large lemon blotch. The spike is very strong. Will make a splendid cut flower variety. L.: 7c each; 70c per doz. S.: 25c per 10. Blts. 10c per 100; 75c per 1000.

### FERN KYLE

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 89.5. M. L.

A large ruffled creamy white. L.: 35c each. Blts. 40c per doz.

### MARIE KUNDERD

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 88.1. E.

A beautifully ruffled pure white and very early. A wonder glad,

THE FOSS HEATON GLAD GARDENS, SHANNON CITY, IOWA

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and the finest of all whites. L.: 20c each; \$2.00 per doz. Blts. 25c per 20.

### WHITE WONDER

(Kemp) A. G. S. 84.1. Gersdorff 90. M. E.

A very strong growing white, sometimes faintly tinted pink. Many open. L.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz; Blts. 25c per 100.

### YELLOW

#### GOLD

(Decorah) A. G. S. 89.0. Gersdorff 92. M. E.

A fine yellow glad. Pure golden yellow. Many large, perfectly placed flowers. A good multiplier, and it often blooms from bulblets. Placed among the best 20 in the A. G. S. ratings. M.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz. Blts. 25c per 20.

#### GOLDEN BUTTERFLY

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 82.8. E. (6-8 to 8-10)

Immense butterfly-like flowers of a light golden yellow. Keeps exceptionally fine when cut. Primulinus Hybrid. L.: 20c each; \$2. per doz. S.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz. Blts. 25c per 20.

#### GOLDEN MEASURE

✓ (Kelway) A. G. S. 90.1. Gersdorff 96. M.

A very strong growing yellow, the equal of "Gold" in many ways, some claim better. Practically the same pure golden yellow. Flowers not always so perfectly placed as in "Gold", altho it ranks higher in the Symposium. L.: 8c each; 80c per doz. Blts. 40c per 100.

#### SOUVENIR

(Jonkheer) A. G. S. 87.1. Gersdorff 92. E. (6-17 to 8-30)

A clear, live, Daffodil yellow. The deepest yellow of the moderately priced glads. Tall, slender, graceful stems. Primulinus Hybrid. L.: 7c each; 70c per doz. M.: 40c per doz. S.: 20c per doz. Blts. 10c per 100.

### SALMON

#### EVELYN KIRTLAND

✓ (Austin) A. G. S. 88.2. Gersdorff 95. M. L. (6-5 to 9-5)

A very tall, melting, rosy pink. An old variety, but still ranks among the world's finest. L.: 40c per doz; \$3.00 per 100. M.: 25c per doz.; \$1.50 per 100. S.: 75c per 100. Blts. 50c per 1000.

#### J. A. CARBONE

✓ (Diener) M. L.

A bright orange-salmon that stands up extremely well in the heat. Tall spike, strong grower. One of Diener's finest. L.: 75c each. Blts. 50c per 15.

#### JENNY LIND

(Decorah) A. G. S. 88.7. Gersdorff 93. M. E.

The "darling of the glad world". Pure soft apricot pink, pale yellow throat, the two colors perfectly blended. Tall spike, many large attractive blooms. A most refined and beautiful glad. Ranks among the best 20 glads. Blts. 25c per doz.

#### JEWELL

(Zeestraten) A. G. S. 89.8. Gersdorff 92. E. (5-30 to 8-20).

A splendid cut flower glad. Tall, slender spike, and very early flowering. A clear light salmon pink with almost the entire lower

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petals a rich golden yellow. This rich yellow marking gives the appearance of a golden radiance in the center of a bouquet of these flowers. Not hooded as are most Prims. Eleventh place in the ratings. Primulinus Hybrid. L.: 7c each; 70c per doz. S.: 25c per doz. Blts. 20c per 100; \$1.50 per 1000.

### MARSHALL FOCH

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 88.6. Gersdorff 96. M. L. (6-5 to 9-10).

A giant, heavy-textured flower of a pleasing salmon pink, deepening toward the center and the tips of the petals. The petals are ruffled and are set around the center somewhat like a huge rosette. M.: 75c per doz. S.: 50c per doz. Blts. 25c per 20.

### MRS. H. E. BOTHIN

(Diener) A. G. S. 88.4. Gersdorff 92. M. L. (6-5 to 9-10)

One of Diener's finest. A pleasing light salmon pink on a white ground, with a beautiful scarlet blotch on lower petals. Ruffled. Try a mixed bouquet of this glad and Dr. F. E. Bennett. L.: 8c each; 75c per doz. M.: 40c per doz.

### MYRA

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 82.1. E.

A very pleasing light salmon pink with a small red feather. Very large florets and tall spike. Primulinus Hybrid. L.: 6c each; 60c per doz. Blts. 15c per 100.

### POLA NEGRI

(Diener). Gersdorff 96. M. L. (6-4 to 9-8)

Apricot, with creamy throat, and blending to salmon on outer edges of petals. A fine color combination. S.: 6c each; 60c per doz. Blts. 25c per 25.

### PRINCE OF WALES

✓ (Van Zanten) A. G. S. 82.9. Gersdorff 93. E. (6-10 to 8-25)

A clear salmon, darker spot in the throat. Very early. L.: 50c per doz. M.: 25c per doz.

### SHEILA

(Coleman) A. G. S. 87.1. Gersdorff 91. E. (6-13 to 8-30).

One of the finest early glads in existence. Gorgeous giant flowers of a pure salmon pink, blending to a pure yellow throat. Many fine textured flowers open at one time on an extremely tall, slender spike. Won first as the "best salmon colored spike" at Des Moines. Try a mixed bouquet of Sheila and Souvenir. L.: 7c each; 70c per doz. M.: 40c per doz. Blts. 10c per doz; 70c per 100.

## ORANGE

### ALICE TIPLADY

✓ (Kunderd) A. G. S. 86.6. Gersdorff 91. M. E. (6-10 to 9-10)

A very popular Primulinus Hybrid. Color is a bright orange saffron. L.: 5c each; 50c per doz. M.: 25c per doz. S.: \$1.00 per 100. Blts. 10c per 100.

### MRS. J. C. GROSSMAN

(Grossman)

A brilliant salmon-orange Primulinus Hybrid. Fine grower. L.: \$1.00 each. Blts. 25c per doz.

### ORANGE GLORY

✓ (Kunderd) A. G. S. 82.3. M.

A ruffled orange with lighter throat. Large florets and strong plant. L.: 8c each; 80c per doz. S.: 25c per doz. Blts. 15c per 100.



## RED

### CRIMSON GLOW

✓ (Betscher) A. G. S. 87.1. Gersdorff 96. M. L. (6-2 to 8-30)

The standard crimson. Bright, glistening, wide-open flowers. A very dependable glad in every way. L.: 6c each; 60c per doz. M.: 3c each; 30c per doz. S.: 30c per 25. Blts. 10c per 100; 75c per 1000.

### DR. F. E. BENNETT

✓ (Diener) A. G. S. 91.7. Gersdorff 98. M. E. (6-8 to 9-4)

Brilliant flame scarlet, or fiery red. Very strong grower, often blooming from bulblets. Excellent keeper and blooms out better in the vase than when left in the garden. Well placed on the tall stem, with six or more in bloom at the same time. Rated 4th in the Symposium, and deserves it. Won 1st as the best scarlet at the Des Moines show. Truly a super glad. L.: \$1.00 each; \$10.00 per doz. M.: 50c each; \$5.00 per doz.

### RED FIRE

(Kunderd) M.

A pure self-colored bright red, very showy. Many florets open. L.: 20c each. Blts. 40c per doz.

### ROBT. J. KUNDERD

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 90.7. Gersdorff 90. M. E.

A rich velvety deep scarlet. A very showy self color. Strong spike and large flowers. Given seventh place in the Symposium. Five or more open florets. A very fine red. S.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz.

### SCARLET WONDER

(Cowee) M.

The largest flowered red to date, probably. Immense, satiny red florets on a sturdy spike. L.: 30c each; \$3.00 per doz. S.: 80c per doz.; Blts. 20c per doz.

## DARK RED

### DIENER'S AMERICAN BEAUTY

✓ (Diener) A. G. S. 87.3. Gersdorff 94. M. (6-5 to 8-30).

A splendid American Beauty shade, with cream blotch in the throat. Almost the entire spike in bloom at one time, forming a bouquet in itself. L.: 15c each; \$1.50 per doz. S.: 75c per doz. Blts. 70c per 100.

### JOHN T. PIRIE

(Kunderd) M.

A fine keeper when cut. A very odd glad, a sort of mahogany brown, with a diamond shaped blotch of a deep red, bordered cream, on lower petals. S.: 20c each; \$2.00 per doz.

### MASTERPIECE

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 88.2. M. L.

A large ruffled "American Beauty" rose, with lighter throat. Blts. 25c per doz.

### PURPLE GLORY

✓ (Kunderd) A. G. S. 90.3. Gersdorff 97. M. L. (5-30 to 8-30)

Ninth place in the ratings. A giant ruffled variety. Deep velvety maroon red, often showing a purplish tinge. A very strong grower, with giant spike and heavy-textured flowers. Blooms well from small bulbs and quite often from bulblets. A prize winner ev-

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erywhere. Often called the "King of the Glads." L.: 15c each; \$1.50 per doz. S.: 50c per doz. Blts. 70c per 100.

### TARO

(Kunderd) E.

A very dark "American Beauty" rose, or majenta, probably the best of this shade. Strong grower and very early. L.: 25c each; \$2.50 per doz. M.: \$1.50 per doz. S.: 80c per doz. Blts. 25c per doz.

## BLUE

### GERALDINE FARRAR

(Diener) A. G. S. 87.8. Gersdorff 98. M.

A very fine blue. According to the color chart it is a pale lavender violet. A very strong grower, unlike most blues. A large number of florets open at one time on a strong spike. The florets are massive and of splendid substance. S.: \$5.00 each.

## PURPLE

### ANNA EBERIUS

(Diener) A. G. S. 87.9. Gersdorff 96. M. (6-4 to 8-30).

One of the finest glads in the world. A bright purple. Has everything a glad should have. L.: 7c each; 70c per doz. M.: 40c per doz. Blts. 10c per 100.

### HENRY FORD

(Henry Ford) A. G. S. 86.5. Gersdorff 96. M.

Slightly brighter shade of purple than Anna Eberius. Florets large and arranged around the spike. Tremendous propagator. L.: \$1.00 each. S.: \$2.25 per doz. Blts. 50c per doz; \$4.00 per 100.

### HERADA

(Austin) A. G. S. 86.7. Gersdorff 97. M. L.

Bright mauve, glistening and clear. A favorite in the cut flower trade. L.: 40c per doz.; \$2.50 per 100. S.: 75c per 100. Blts. 50c per 1000.

### ROSE ASH

(Diener) A. G. S. 84.8. Gersdorff 97. M. L. (6-4 to 9-8).

Unusually, but beautifully colored glad. Old rose, or ashes of roses, somewhat like French purple. Useful for decorative purposes where rich shades are dominant. Very strong grower. L.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz. Blts. 25c per 100.

### VIOLET GLORY

(Kunderd) M. E.

A slightly ruffled, self-colored deep violet. Large flowers on a straight, slender spike. L.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz. Blts. 25c per 100.

## LAVENDER

### CAPTAIN BOYNTON

✓ (Boynton) Gersdorff 94. M.

A very tall slender spike with very large, wide open florets. A white, well brushed with a bluish lavender, with a maroon blotch. Winner of many prizes at the recent shows. L.: 50c each.

### LOUISE

(Wright) A. G. S. 85.1. Gersdorff 94. M. L. (6-2 to 9-5).

A bright blue lavender. A very large flowered glad, and a good florist's variety. L.: 6c each; 60c per doz. S.: 20c per doz.

### MRS. F. C. PETERS

(Fischer) A. G. S. 91.5. Gersdorff 96. M. L. (6-5 to 9-10).

One of the finest of the lavenders. Sixth place in the A. G. S. ratings. A beautiful shade of rose lilac. Usually but one large crimson blotch, bordered white, on a lower petal. It resembles an orchid's delicate colorings. Many large flowers on a perfectly straight tall stem. For real refined beauty there is no more wonderful glad in existence. Blts. 25c per doz; \$1.50 per 100.

### SWEET LAVENDER

(Coleman) A. G. S. 86.6. Gersdorff 91. E. (6-8 to 8-20)

A tight lavender, almost a blush white, with a purple spot on the lower petals. A very fine, extra early glad. L.: 8c each; 80c per doz. M.: 40c per doz. S.: 20c per doz. Blts. 35c per 100.

## LIGHT PINK

### AVALON

(Kunderd) M. E. (6-5 to 8-30).

An intensely ruffled glad. Faintly blushed white, with an extremely beautiful throat. One of the finest of the ruffled glads. Holds up very good when cut, the last florets to open being as beautiful and well ruffled as the first ones. M.: 40c per doz.

### CATHERINE COLEMAN

(Coleman) A. G. S. 91.8. Gersdorff 96. M. L.

A rich coral pink. The slight American Beauty tinge in the throat enhances its beauty. Many large, well placed florets on a very tall slender stem. Third best glad in the world according to the Symposium. Certainly a super glad in every way. S.: 40c each.

### ELIZABETH TABOR

(Hinkle) A. G. S. 86.4. Gersdorff 88. Extra E. (6-17 to 8-3)

The earliest glad of all. Bloomed in 47 days in my garden this year. Very much like Mrs. Frank Pendleton in color. Very tall spike and wide open florets. L.: 20c each. S.: 75c per doz. Blts 25c per 20.

### GIANT NYMPH

✓ (Coleman) A. G. S. 91.2. Gersdorff 94. M. L.

A giant flower, often 6 inches across. Light cream pink with cream throat. Perfectly placed on a strong stem. Seventh place in the A. G. S. ratings. A super glad with a great future. L.: 35c each.

### LE MARECHAL FOCH

✓ (Van Deursen) A. G. S. 85.5. Gersdorff 94. M. E.

A clear orchid pink. Immense flowers on a sturdy spike. A great commercial variety. L.: 40c per doz.; \$2.00 per 100. M.: \$1.00 per 100. Blts. 25c per 1000.

### MAIDEN'S BLUSH

(Grullemans) A. G. S. 85.3. Gersdorff 95. E. (7-1 to 8-30).

The finest pink glad of the Primulinus type. A very strong grower, with flowers of a delicate blush pink. Dainty, beautiful florets arranged on slender, wiry stems with a gracefulness seldom equalled in a Gladiolus. A profuse bloomer, large bulbs sending up several spikes. Won first as the best Prim. at the Des Moines show. Also won first in the class of "the six most graceful spikes" in the show. L.: 40c per doz.; \$3.25 per 100. M.: \$1.50 per 100. S.: 50c per 100. Blts.: 10c per 100; 75c per 1000.

### **MRS. FRANK PENDLETON**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 87.6. Gersdorff 92. M. (5-30 to 9-5).

Mr. Kunderd, the originator, calls this glad the grandest of all glads. Among the most popular of all for years and rates high. A beautiful pink on a white ground, with a giant crimson blotch. L.: 40c per doz.; \$2.50 per 100. M.: \$1.25 per 100. S.: 75c per 100. Blts. 50c per 1000.

### **MR. W. H. PHIPPS**

(Diener) A. G. S. 93.6. M.

The world's finest glad. Rated 1st in the Symposium. Rich, mellow flesh pink. Enormous flowers on a very strong spike, often 15 to 20 out at one time from large bulbs. L.: \$1.50 each. M.: \$1.00 each. Blts. 50c per doz.; \$4.00 per 100.

## **DARK PINK**

### **E. J. SHAYLOR**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 88.4. Gersdorff 92. E. (6-10 to 8-30).

Beautifully ruffled pure, deep rose pink. Tall spike and early. Very popular. L.: 5c each; 50c per doz. M.: 30c per doz. Blts. 15c per 100.

### **INDIAN MAID**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 81.0. M. L.

Peach blossom pink on a white ground, with a blotch of deeper shade on lower petals. Tall slender stem. A good percentage of the bulblets bloom. L.: 15c each. S.: 75c per doz. Blts. 25c per 20.

### **MRS. LEON DOUGLAS**

(Diener) A. G. S. 88.8. M. E.

The world's largest glad, probably. Among the first 20 in the Symposium. Rich begonia pink, often flaked scarlet. Wide open, enormous flowers on a very tall spike, many open and well placed. A wonderful glad with a great future. L.: 30c each. Blts. 25c per doz.

### **ROSE GLORY**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 83.6. Gersdorff 91. M. E.

A ruffled beauty of the purest rose pink color. A fine variety. M.: 10c each.

## **CREAM AND PINK**

### **A. B. KUNDERD**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 86.4. Gersdorff 86. M. L.

Heavily ruffled cream and pink, with small red feather on yellow lip. Strong grower and very beautiful. M.: 8c each; 80c per doz.

### **BREAK O' DAY**

(Glad Bill) E.

Cream ground suffused over with soft pink, shading deeper at tips of petals. One of the finest of the newer glads. L.: \$15.00 each. Blts. \$1.25 each; \$12.00 per doz.

### **GIANT MYRTLE**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 89.0. M.

A very dainty and beautiful glad. Large flowers of a delicate arbutus pink, with cream and white center. In great demand on account of its beautiful color. Among the first 20 in the ratings. S.: 15c each.

### **MRS. DR. NORTON**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 89.1. M.

A fine cream and pink. Tall slender stem, and large flowers. Fine commercial variety. Fifteenth place in the ratings. L.: 5c each; 50c per doz. Blts. 10c per 100.

### **MRS. RICHARD LOHRMAN**

(Diener) A. G. S. 89.5. Gersdørf 92. M.

Creamy shell pink with creamy throat. Well ruffled large florets. Stems sometimes kink. Thirteenth place in the ratings. Blts. 20c per doz.

### **RICHARD DIENER**

(Diener) A. G. S. 92.0. M. L.

Named by the great hybridizer, Mr. Diener, for himself, and certainly deserving of a great name. Second highest rating. Considered by many the world's best pink glad. Clear live pink with creamy center. The very acme of perfection in coloring. Strong spike, and many open florets. S.: 10c each; \$1.00 per doz.

### **TWILIGHT**

(Kunderd) A. G. S. 80.3. M. (6-8 to 9-5).

Very strong grower, with a large number of beautifully ruffled florets in bloom at one time on a tall stem, and well placed. A most beautiful blending of pink and creamy yellow. L.: 15c each; \$1.50 per doz. M.: 80c per doz. Blts. 15c per doz. \$1.00 per 100.

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## **WHEN TO PLANT**

Varieties differ greatly in the length of time from planting to blooming. Elizabeth Tabor bloomed in 47 days for me this summer, while Indian Summer likes to wait for Indian Summer days.

To prolong the blooming season, you may plant at intervals of about two weeks. But I find this is sometimes inconvenient. Another method is to plant the different sizes of bulbs all at the same time. The large bulbs bloom first, and so on down to the smaller sizes, with the bulblets last of all, in those varieties in which bulblets bloom, thus extending the blooming season uniformly from July till frost.

## **GIVE GLADS ELBOW ROOM**

Glad like the wide, open spaces. So many people plant their glads along the side of buildings and board fences and in the partial shade of trees, and at blooming time give the catalog man "Hail Columbia." If you have a garden, you always put your sweet corn out there in the open, away from things, if you want it to do well. Treat the glads the same way.

## **BULBS SINGLE FILE**

Most growers plant their bulbs in rows, and single file in the rows and sprinkle the bulblets in narrow trenches. This makes for convenience in cultivating and weeding as well as digging. Mass planting is usually "mess" planting, especially at digging time. Rows may be from one foot to three feet apart, depending on your means of cultivating. Large bulbs may almost touch each other in the trench and the smaller bulbs and bulblets spaced so that they will almost touch each other when grown.

## **DEEP OR SHALLOW**

This depends on several things. You must plant deep, at least four or five inches, if you are to keep the spikes from falling over at

## SUPERIOR GLADIOLI

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blooming time. On the other hand, growers plant their small bulbs and bulblets comparatively shallow, as they say they get a bigger increase of bulblets in this way, and the labor of planting and harvesting is easier. Large bulbs usually have no bulblet increase, or very little. So a good rule is to plant deep for the flowers, and shallow for the increase.

### GLADS ARE NOT FUSSY

Keep the weeds away, and stir the ground occasionally until the buds begin to show. In fact, treat them as you do your cabbage and corn. They ask no more, should get no less, although they will hold no grudge against you, and will present you with their spikes of flowers, even if you do abuse them a little.

### WASTED SWEETNESS

"Full many a glad has bloomed to blush unseen and waste its sweetness on the desert air" out there in the garden. Take them in the house, your home, the office, some sick room, church, anywhere out of the blazing sun. Not that they dislike the blazing sun, any more than you would standing out there to enjoy them. But they are ideal for cut flower purposes. They will remain beautiful for a week indoors if you keep the wilted blossoms removed, and change the water occasionally. The *Gladiolus* is preeminently the flower for cut flower purposes.

### MASS EFFECT

The effectiveness of any glad is multiplied many times when there are a dozen or more spikes of one kind in the bouquet. A single spike, or even two or three, seem lonesome, and there is a scattered effect if the bouquet contains several varieties chosen at random, unless they blend together, or reinforce each other. My advice is to plant not less than 100 bulbs of any of the cheaper varieties.

Try the following mixed bouquets, containing at least twelve spikes in each case: Duchesse of York and Alice Tiplady, Sheila and Souvenir, Purple Glory and Twilight, Dr. F. E. Bennett and Mrs. H. E. Bothin. There are many such combinations that are delightful.

### FERTILIZER

Most varieties of glads like lots of fertilizer. Of course, there is a limit, as it can be overdone. Too rich a soil seems to force the flower at the expense of bulblet production. Soil that will raise good corn or good potatoes will raise good glads. But be careful in the use of fertilizer with such varieties as E. J. Shaylor, Gold, Golden Measure, Fern Kyle, Mrs. Dr. Norton, A. B. Kunderd and a few others. The less the better for these if you want the largest increase of bulblets. If you wish to grow the largest and finest flowers for the show, you can use oceans of sheep or cow manure, sprinkled dry in the trenches beneath the bulbs. But be sure the soil is kept moist. I have tried other kinds of fertilizer, but never with the success that I have had with these.

### GLADS, A DESERT FLOWER

The native haunts of most of the wild species of glads are along the fringes of the deserts of Africa. This accounts for some of their habits, like their ability to stand the heat and drouth. Visitors go out to the fields of glads alongside the giant corn, and are amazed by the mass of vivid colors and delicate hues under the blazing sun. Imagine an orchid out there. This is also the reason for the bulblets' hard shell, to retain its moisture during the long hot periods of drouth of its native land. During the last season we had two periods of drouth of about six weeks each here in Iowa. I rigged up a watering system for one patch of glads, and I kept them soaked. But at dig-

ging time I could see no difference between these and another field alongside them that were not irrigated. Hereafter, no watering for me.

### THAT HARD SHELL

The tiny bulblets are encased in exceedingly hard shells, that simply must be loosened somehow before they will sprout. I use a sharp point of a pen-knife on the expensive kinds. But this takes time. Most growers soak them over night just before planting, and are satisfied if they get half of them to grow. At digging time I usually find many that are just coming up, having withstood the racket all summer until the fall rains succeeded in loosening up their hides. Some growers sprout their bulblets before planting, by keeping them in a moist place a few weeks early in the spring, either between layers of wet cotton, like the "rag-doll" seed corn tester, or in moist saw-dust or sand.

### A BULB'S BEST YEAR

When you plant bulblets, your crop at digging time is usually the small sizes called "planting stock," varying from one inch in diameter down to one-quarter of an inch and even less. The following year most of these will bloom, but the spike is shorter, showing fewer florets, although these florets usually measure up in size to those of a full size spike. However, the bulb at digging time is full size, and will produce a full size spike the following year, which is the bulb's best year. After that we have what are called old bulbs that seldom measure up to the bulb's best year.

Insist on getting young bulbs when you buy. That is the only kind I send out.

### STORING BULBS

It is absolutely necessary that the bulbs have a period of rest. And while they are resting, see that they are comfortable. Keep them in a dry, airy place that is cool, but free from danger of frost. They will cure well if put in such a place immediately after digging, if the tops are cut off close to the bulb. Shallow crates, three or four inches in depth, with screen wire bottoms, fastened on securely, are ideal for storing bulbs. Paper bags are fine if they are not too large. Keep the bulblets where there is more dampness and less circulation of air, in the potato bin for instance, being careful that they do not mold.

### PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS

These wonderful flowers are a cross between the large gladioli and a yellow species, called the "Primulinus," which is found growing wild near Victoria Falls, South Africa. The result of the cross is a decidedly worth-while new strain of glads. The colors are mostly the beautiful nasturtium shades, fine and varying shades of yellow, orange and saffron, with a few exquisite pink varieties. The blooms are smaller than the regular strains, and are usually slightly hooded in the upper petal, but are airily poised on long, graceful, pliant stems, for all the world like so many beautiful butterflies. They are especially fine in baskets and for table decorations. Sometimes called the ever-blooming glads, on account of the fact that the bulbs often send up several spikes that bloom at different times, thus prolonging the blooming season.

### AMERICAN GLADIOLUS SOCIETY

Join the American Gladiolus Society. Starting with just a few members only a few years ago, they now number several thousands. The dues are \$2.00 and you will get "The Gladiolus Bulletin," a monthly magazine devoted solely to the gladiolus. Mail your application to John C. Davis, 77 South Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

## THE FLOWER GROWER

The best flower magazine published. Subscription price \$2.00 per year. Published monthly by Madison Cooper, Calcium, N. Y.

### A LETTER

(From a member of The Garden Club of Omaha)

Foss Heaton Glad Gardens,  
Shannon City, Iowa.

Gentlemen:—

The shipment of bulbs ordered in my letter of Dec. 3rd has been received and they surely looked very fine. This is appreciated as well as the liberal count and the bulbs of Dr. F. E. Bennett, as extras, were a pleasant surprise. I just received the December Bulletin of the American Gladiolus Society and read with a good deal of interest Mr. Hinkle's account of the Gladiolus Show, held in connection with the Des Moines fair last fall and the part you had in it. A number of our members attended the Peony show at Des Moines last spring but I do not believe very many of them knew about the Gladiolus show. We hope that next year the Publicity Committee will pass the good word along.

Dated Dec. 11, 1925.

### THE BEST TWELVE GLADS

We hear so much about "super-glads", or the "best ten" glads, in catalogs and elsewhere, that I hope this will serve as an excuse, or provocation, for me to offer my selection of the best twelve.

In choosing them I have in mind certain qualities which my super-glads all possess. They are able to respond to high culture; the bulblets are plump, plentiful and anxious to sprout; the bulbs are solid, and pink with health, at all times and under all conditions; the florets are always well placed, on stems always straight; the spikes are sturdy and tall; they have healthy green foliage till frost; the florets are of fine substance, fine texture, never fading and always bloom out well indoors; the color is of wonderful purity; in short, my super-glads are dependable and beautiful.

With these qualities in mind, I nominate the following: Anna Eberius, Dr. F. E. Bennett, Purple Glory, Mrs. Frank Pendleton, Marie Kunderd, Giant Nymph, Mrs. Leon Douglas, Sheila, Mr. W. H. Phipps, Mrs. F. C. Peters, Geraldine Farrar, and Twilight.

Of course, I realize that the above selections represent the mere opinion of one person. No two of us would ever choose the same glads, as tastes vary greatly. Besides, we all value very highly our sacred right of free choice in the matter, and we want a rather wide range of varieties to choose from. But there is a limit. There are hundreds of new varieties being placed on the market every year. The average amateur, whose growing space and leisure hours are limited, naturally wants to plant the best of the various types and colors. The big question is, how are we going to help him.





